



CARRIE GREGOR
AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK

COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES

On **April 9, 2012** Austin County Commissioners Court met in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Austin County Courthouse with the following present:

Carolyn Bilski, County Judge
David Ottmer, Commissioner, Precinct 1
Robert "Bobby" Rinn, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Randy Reichardt, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Douglas King, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Cyndi Gomez, Deputy County Clerk

Opening – 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order
Invocation
Pledges of Allegiance
Certification of Quorum

Consideration/Adoption of Agenda

Move agenda #1, c to beginning for discussion due to active emergency. Executive Session will need consultation after agenda #5.

Motion to Adopt: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Ottmer, passed (4-0).
Order #12-133

1. Proclamations and Special Recognitions

- c. National Telecommunicator's Week**
- a. Sexual Assault & Awareness Week**
- e. Volunteer Appreciation Month**
- d. National Library Week**
- b. Austin County 4-H Beef Quiz Bowl Team National Champions**

Walker Eskew, Katelynn Miller, Tyler Bond and Nate Compton

2. Petitions or Requests from the Public

None.

3. Consideration and possible action to adopt Consent Agenda Format

*Motion to Adopt: Commissioner Ottmer, 2nd Commissioner Reichardt, passed (4-0).
Order #12-134*

4. CONSENT AGENDA – Items listed are of routine nature and may be acted on in a single motion unless requested otherwise by member of Commissioners Court

- a. **Consideration and possible action to authorize agreement with Harris County for postmortem examination and related services at \$2,250 per autopsy and \$1,000 for external examination beginning June 1, 2012 and ending May 31, 2013**
- b. **Consideration and possible action to authorize purchase of recording paper out of Records Management 137-010-0000 in the amount of \$3,680.00**
- c. **Consideration and possible action to approve contract for election services between Austin County and City of Wallis and Brazos Independent School District for May 12, 2012 Election**
- d. **Consideration and possible action to authorize agreement between the Austin County Voting Registrar / Election Department and Austin County for use of Basement Meeting Room during the May 29, 2012 Primary Election**
- e. **Consideration and possible action to authorize agreement for temporary access between Kenneth H. and Karen J. Grebe and Austin County Precinct 2 for Industry Road at Mill Branch bridge project**
- f. **Consideration and possible action to approve application for required schooling for Wilfred Krause, Justice of The Peace, Precinct 2 to be held April 15-18, 2012 in San Antonio, Texas**
- h. **Consideration and possible action to approve application for required schooling reimbursement for Betty Jez, County Auditor, to be held May 8-11, 2012 in Austin, Texas**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #12-135*

g. Consideration and possible action to approve application for required schooling for Elery Kimes, County Treasurer to be held April 15-19, 2012 in College Station, Texas

Betty Jez, County Auditor, read a Local Government Code in regard to continued education expenses. Commissioners Court of a county may authorize payment of reasonable continuing education expenses incurred by a county or precinct officer, if expenses are related to the officers official duties including expenses incurred by the officer between general election at which the officer is elected and the beginning of the officers term.

Per Betty Jez, Elery Kimes was not elected and understands that she cannot approve a claim unless incurred and provide by law.

*Motion to Postpone: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #12-136*

5. Discussion regarding bid proposals regarding New Ulm Water Supply Corporation Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project, and action as appropriate

Bradley Loehr, BEFCO Engineering, Inc. recommended Lassen Inc., DBA Mike Larsen Company in the amount of \$206,354.50 and construction to begin May/June 2012.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Reichardt, passed (4-0).
Order #12-137*

Court recessed at 9:25 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A closed meeting will be held concerning the following items:

1. Consultation with attorney regarding litigation. (This is in accordance with the Texas Government Code Section 551.071).

Court reconvened at 10:03 a.m.

15. Action as appropriate from Executive Session

Counsel will take depositions and obtain other forms of evidence on Motion to Transfer Venue for Cause # 2011V-0089 and change of venue.

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Ottmer, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #12-138*

6. Update on County health insurance

Craig Murphy, UMR representative reviewed the Austin County Health Plan claims and reports of the year to date.

7. Consideration and possible action to approve indigent defense grant procedures

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Ottmer, passed (4-0).

Order #12-139

8. Consideration and possible action to amend Personnel Policy & Procedures

a. Maximum Leave Vacation – Section 8.04

Add “employee’s department head may request a hardship variance to policy allowing up to an additional eight weeks to use vacation leave.”

Motion to Amend: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Ottmer, passed (4-0).

Order #12-140

b. Safety & Security Policy – Section 10.00

New county policy for all employees, (except employees in uniforms) to wear employee ID badges. This will be up to department heads and elected officials to suggest their employees work with the court promoting the safety of the public.

Motion to Adopt: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Ottmer, passed (4-0).

Order #12-141

9. Consideration and possible action to authorize an order to approve additional time in Fiscal Year 2011-2012 for Sheriff’s Office personnel to use vacation hours accrued but not used in Fiscal year 2010-2011

Resolution allowing one-time variance from personnel policy section 8.04 for vacation leave/accumulated hours to be used.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Ottmer, 2nd Commissioner King, passed (4-0).

Order #12-142

10. Consideration and possible action to authorize County Auditor to adopt rules relating to the format of the audit and report as requested by Emergency Services District 1 as stated in Health & Safety Code 775.082

Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Ottmer, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).

Order #12-143

11. Consideration and possible action to authorize Homeland Security Grant funds of approximately \$77,495.50 for:

- a. Generator for Peters-San Felipe Tower**
- b. Air Conditioners for Peters-San Felipe and Bleiblerville tower equipment structures**
- c. Security fencing for Peters-San Felipe and Bleiblerville tower locations**
- d. VHF paging and communication base station upgrade**
- e. Additional propane tank for Peters-San Felipe generator**

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #12-144*

12. Discussion regarding driveway improvement at Bleiblerville tower site, and action as appropriate

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #12-145*

13. Open proposals for insurance options for dental, vision, employer paid life insurance with \$10,000 accidental death (guarantee issue), long term disability / short term disability (guarantee issue for new hires), supplemental products, and health insurance options, and action as appropriate

Proposals opened and tabulated by Sharon McCowin and Cathie Noviskie. Proposals will be brought back for discussion at the next meeting.

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Ottmer, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #12-146*

14. Budgetary and Financial Claims – action as appropriate

a. Payment of Claims

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner King, passed (4-0).
Order #12-147*

b. Budget Amendments

None.

c. County Auditor's and Treasurer's review of finances

Review by Betty Jez, County Auditor.

Court recessed at 11:15 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CONTINUED

A closed meeting will be held concerning items:

2. Deliberation regarding Real Property. (This is in accordance with the Texas Government Code Section 551.072).
3. Personnel Matters regarding County Judge and County Treasurer's Office. (This is in accordance with the Texas Government Code Section 551.074).

Court reconvened at 11:35 a.m.

15. Action as appropriate from Executive Session

Per Judge Bilski, deliberation on Real Property will be placed on future agenda.

Per Commissioner Ottmer, Tonja Mewis will become the County Treasurer's Assistant and needs to be bonded. Continue prior duties with Environmental, Human Resources and in the County Judges office. A salary increase to \$10.15 per hour effective April 9, 2012.

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Ottmer, 2nd Commissioner Reichardt, passed (4-0).
Order #12-148*

16. Commissioners Court Inquiry

No discussion.

Court adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

**ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ON FILE WITH COUNTY CLERK AS
PROVIDED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT**

I, Carrie Gregor, Austin County Clerk, attest to the accuracy of the record of the Commissioners Court proceedings for April 9, 2012.

Date: April 16, 2012

Carrie Gregor
Carrie Gregor, Austin County Clerk
Clerk of Commissioners Court
Austin County, Texas
By: Cyndi Gomez, Deputy

FILED

12 APR 16 AM 10:46

Carrie Gregor
COUNTY CLERK
AUSTIN COUNTY, TEXAS

